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OCT 06 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Daniel G. Howard et al.
Application No. 10/773,103
Filed: February 5, 2004
Attorney Docket No. ECD-0014CIP

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:
: DECISION ACCORDING STATUS
: UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)
:

This is in response to the petition filed September 9, 2004 under 37 CFR 1.47(a).

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application was filed on February 5, 2004, naming Daniel G. Howard, Jeffrey A. Pagliarulo, John R. Crowley, Andrew R. Lee, John J. Hart, James A. Merkle, Richard B. Levine without a signed declaration. Accordingly, on May 7, 2004, a "Notice To File Missing Parts of Application" was mailed, requiring *inter alia* a properly executed oath or declaration.

In response, on September 9, 2004, an oath or declaration executed by joint inventors Howard, Pagliarulo, Crowley, Lee, Hart and Levine and a petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) was filed. The petition argues that diligent efforts to locate joint inventor Merkle were used.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) requires: (1) proof that the non-signing inventor cannot be reached or refuses to sign the oath or declaration after having been presented with the application papers (specification, claims and drawings); (2) an acceptable oath or declaration in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 115 and 116; (3) the petition fee; and (4) a statement of the last known address of the non-signing inventor.

The petition bears proof that efforts to locate Mr. Merkle at the last known physical address, as well as telephone calls and emails were used to locate him but to no avail.

The above-identified application and papers have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.47(a). In view thereof, this application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status.

Thus, as provided in Rule 1.47c, this Office will forward notice of this application's filing to the non-signing inventor at the address given in the petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the Official Gazette.

The application is being forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for further processing.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patricia Faison-Ball". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P".

Patricia Faison-Ball
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions



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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Daniel G. Howard et al.
Application No. 10/773,103
Filed: February 5, 2004
For: SYTEMS AND METHODS FOR MEDIA AUTHENTICATION

Dear Mr. Merkle:

You are named as a joint inventor in the above identified United States patent application, filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 116 (United States Code), and 37 CFR 1.47(a), Rules of Practice in Patent Cases. Should a patent be granted on the application you will be designated therein as a joint inventor.

As a named inventor you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent attorney or agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join the application, counsel of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Telephone inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned Petitions Attorney at (571) 272-3212. Requests for information regarding your application should be directed to the File Information Unit at 703/308-2733. Information regarding how to pay for and order a copy of the application, or a specific paper in the application, should be directed to Certification Division at 703/308-9726 or 1-800-972-6382 (outside the Washington D.C. area).

Patricia Faison-Ball
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

cc:

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